Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 02849 200821Z

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W

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R 200715Z APR 76 FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4441

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, BENC, SA SUBJECT: HOTELS IN JIDDA

REF: STATE 092821

- 1. AS OF DATE WE ARE AWARE OF FOLLOWING HOTELS PLANNED FOR JIDDA IN NEXT TWO YEARS.
- (A) SHERATON 600 ROOMS
- (B) HILTON 400 ROOMS
- (C) SABBAN 200 ROOMS
- (D) MERIDIEN 400 ROOMS
- 2. IN ADDITION KANDARA PALACE IS BEING ENLARGED FROM PRESENT 240 TO 480 ROOMS. ALSO SAUDI NATIONAL HOTEL CO. IS PLANNING HOTEL FOR JIDDA. IS BAKER INTERESTED IN LATTER?
- 3. IN COMPARATIVE TERMS THERE IS NO REAL FIRST CLASS HOTEL IN JIDDA. THE KANDARA AND JIDDA PALACE AS WELL AS AL ATTAS ARE AT TOP OF HEAP. ALL ARE FULL AND BOOKINGS ALL OTHER HOTELS HAVE RUN ABOUT 95 PERCENT OCCUPANCY FOR PAST 10 MONTHS. HOTEL SHORTAGE IS CRITICAL AND EXPECTED

REMAIN SO FOR SOME TIME. MANY BUSINESSMEN TRAVEL ON IMMEDIATELY AFTER VERY SHORT STAY IN WHATEVER IS AVAILABLE. FOREIGN FIRMS TAKING CONTRACTS RENT BLOCKS OF ROOMS. SAME APPLIES TO AIRLINES AND MANY LOCAL FIRMS. SOME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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400 FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN ARE CONSERVATIVELY ESTIMATED TO

VISIT JIDDA WEEKLY. ABOVE HOTELS AND NEW 1000 ROOM
HOTEL WOULD ONLY BEGIN TO EASE SITUATION ACCORDING
TO LOCAL SOURCES.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

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